

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Washington

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Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director of the Mint, will convene the 154th Annual Assay Commission on February 13 at Philadelphia to "try a random sampling of the entire 1945 silver coinage for weight and fineness. The Commission was established by statute during George Washington's administration, and since then has been meeting each year at the Philadelphia Mint.

For this year's Annual Assay Commission, President Truman has named: George J. Kloepper, Buffalo, New York; Judge Thomas A. Keating, Danbury, Connecticut; Mrs. Patrick F. McGann, Elizabeth, New Jersey; Mrs. Esther K. Taft, Norwich, Connecticut; Lt. Col. Joseph Moss, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Judge Samuel Dennis, Baltimore, Maryland; I. H. Krekstein, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Mrs. William H. Davis, New York City; Mrs. Arthur J. White, Redbank, New Jersey; Arthur W. Devine, Providence, Rhode Island; Dr. Irl C. Schoonover, Division of Chemistry, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.; Dr. M. Fortwalter, Van Wert, Ohio.

Statutory ex-officio members are: Judge William H. Kirkpatrick of the District Court for Eastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Comptroller of the Currency Preston Delano, Washington D. C.; Joseph Buford, Assayer of the U. S. Assay Office, New York City.

A total of 198,321 silver coins worth \$37,936.55 from all three mints will be tested.

The Annual Assay Commission remains in session for two days. Members serve without compensation, but receive a special medal. This year's is a three inch bronze disc bearing on the obverse a portrait of George Washington and on the reverse a relief of Mount Vernon.

The President customarily names to the Annual Assay Commission a member of the staff of the National Bureau of Standards who brings with him to Philadelphia under seal the official weights of the Philadelphia Mint which are calibrated in Washington by the Bureau of Standards each year for these ceremonies.